

GRACE CHURCH VISITOR

A MONTHLY DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE GRACE REFORMED CHURCH AND SUNDAY SCHOOL.

VOLUME III.

FORT WAYNE, IND., OCTOBER, 1891.

NUMBER 1.

THE OHIO SYNOD.

The Ohio Synod is constituted of the following six classes: Miami, Lancaster, Tuscarawas, Eastern Ohio, Tiffin and St. Joseph. These classes are all in Ohio excepting the latter, which is located in Northern Indiana, Southern Michigan and one charge in Northwestern Ohio. There are about one hundred and twenty-five ministers on the roll of the Ohio Synod; two hundred and thirty congregations, with an aggregate membership of about thirty thousand.

For some years past the Synod has been meeting in general convention, when every minister is entitled to a seat, also one lay delegate from each pastoral charge. The Synod recently, Oct. 7th, held its annual sessions at Bellevue, Ohio. The attendance was quite large and the meetings were harmonious and interesting.

The opening sermon was delivered by the retiring president, Rev. J. J. Leberman, of Louisville, Ohio. At the organization of the Synod, Rev. Dr. Van Horn, President of the Theological Seminary at Tiffin, Ohio, was elected President; Rev. Dr. Kefauver, of the same place, was re-elected as Treasurer of Synod; Rev. Dr. I. H. Reiter, who has for many years been Stated Clerk, continues in this office.

Many matters of interest relating to the work of the church claimed the attention of Synod. Reports were heard from the various boards of Synod.

These boards have been serving the church with great acceptance during the past year. The Board of Home Missions has been enlarging its field of operations, in consequence of which it asks for increased funds. The present board with its efficient Superintendent, Rev. D. S. Fouse, is doing aggressive work, and merits the confidence and support of the church. During the past year several new missions have been started, and other places of prominence are soon to be occupied by the board.

It was gratifying to learn that our institutions at Tiffin, Ohio, are continuing in such a flourishing condition. The attendance in all departments of the University and Seminary numbers nearly three hundred for

the present term. Rev. Dr. Peters, the newly elected president of the Literary Department of the University, has been kindly received by the students, and has already gained the confidence of the church and of the students. With the co-operation of the faculty he has inaugurated a new era of order and discipline at the University.

Perhaps the most commendable work of the Synod at its recent meeting was the action taken with reference to the Theological Seminary at Tiffin. For many years past the church has felt that this department was not equipped as it should be. The Seminary is not abreast with the spirit and demands of the day. Funds and additional teaching force are an imperative necessity. To meet the wants of the seminary, Synod at its recent meetings, established two new professorships in the seminary, viz.: a chair of New Testament exegesis and theology, and one of Practical Theology. Rev. Dr. Super, of Collegeville, Pa., was elected to the former professorship and Rev. Dr. Swander, of Fremont, Ohio, to the latter. It is hoped that these gentlemen will comply with the wish of Synod and enter upon their work at an early day. Synod also discussed the advisability of erecting a seminary building with recitation rooms, and lodging rooms for seminary students. It seems the new college building does not furnish room sufficient for the growing wants of the institution. A seminary building is especially also desirable from the fact that it will furnish a home for students preparing for the ministry, and thus furnish them additional pecuniary help while pursuing their course of study. The crying want of the church is, "More ministers." More young men could be induced to enter the ministry if in some way the church could furnish them more aid during their course of preparation.

A very happy innovation upon the formal and spiritless routine of the business of Synod, was the introduction of Open Conference Meetings upon Church Work. An hour of the afternoons of Friday, Satur-

day, and Sabbath was devoted to these services. These conferences were not only delightful diversions, but they were also inspiring and instructive. We hope that at future meetings of Synod more time will be devoted to such work.

On Thursday evening during Synod the Women's Missionary Society held a public service. The exercises were interesting throughout. It was one of the best services ever held by the Society. The Society is giving evidence of growth and consecration to the work of Missions.

Friday evening the Seminary Alumni had charge of the services. Addresses were made by the following pastors: R. Keller of Eastern Ohio Classis; A. K. Zartman, St. Joseph Classis; S. W. Seeman, Lancaster Classis; A. H. Zechiel, Tiffin Classis; S. B. Yockey, Miami Classis. A committee with a representation from each classis was appointed to solicit funds for the endowment of an Alumni professorship in the Seminary.

Sabbath evening was devoted to Missions, Foreign and Home. Addresses were made by Rev. J. P. Moore, Missionary from Sendai, Japan; Rev. Dr. Callender, Secretary of the Board of Foreign Mission; Rev. D. S. Fouse, Superintendent of General Synod's Board of Home Missions. These addresses were all very interesting and awakened a new spirit of missions in the hearts of the people. At the close of the service offerings amounting to over \$200 were received for Foreign and Home Missions. Rev. Mr. Moore will remain in this country for one year or longer, and in this time will visit our churches East and West. He was in Fort Wayne during the meetings of the Synod of the Northwest, Oct. 7th, but he will visit our churches again at a later date, when our people will have an opportunity of seeing and hearing this brother, who has been so devoted to the work of the Master in the Foreign Field. The Superintendent of Home Missions will also visit Fort Wayne in the near future when he will spend several days with our people.

Many other matters of interest transpired during the meetings of Synod, of which we have not time to make mention now. Synod adjourned Monday noon, Oct. 12. The annual meeting in '92 will be held in the Hough avenue Reformed Church, Cleveland, Ohio.

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REV. A. K. ZARTMAN, A. M., - - EDITOR.

Board of Managers; REV. A. K. ZARTMAN, F. D. PAULUS, and D. W. SOUDER.

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THE WOMEN'S SYNODICAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The Woman's Missionary Society of the Ohio Synod met in annual session at Bellevue, Oct. 8th., with a large representation from the classical and congregational societies within the bounds of Synod. The exercises of Thursday afternoon were principally of a devotional character. The usual Bible reading was dispensed with, and a consecration service was held.

A deep spiritual interest pervaded the entire meeting, and all present realized the presence of the Holy Spirit.

Rev. D. F. Fouse, Superintendent of Home Missions, was present and addressed the Society in behalf of Home Missions. Rev. Prugh, from the Orphan's Home at Butler, Pa., was also present and spoke in behalf of the home. The different phases of missionary work were presented and discussed by delegates present. The usual committees were appointed and the Society adjourned until Friday morning.

On Thursday evening a public service was held by the Society. The programme as previously announced in the *Christian World*, was rendered.

The address of welcome was delivered by Mrs. Rev. G. H. Souder. Response, Mrs. S. O. Eggert. Papers were read by the following delegates: Mrs. Ellen M. Black, "Woman's Work in the Church," Mrs. J. H. Albright, "The Progress of Missionary Work," Mrs. A. D. Freeman, "The Duty of the Stay-at-Homes," Mrs. W. H. Shults, "Missionary Societies a means of Development." The last upon the programme was the annual address by the President, Mrs. A. K. Zartman.

These papers were all replete with good thoughts and presented excellent suggestions concerning the methods of carrying forward the mission work of the church, as well as a presentation of the magnitude and importance of this work.

It was gratifying to the Society to know that the exercises met the hearty approval of the large number of ministers present, and to know also that in the missionary work of

the Ohio Synod the society has the sympathy and co-operation of its pastors and elders. At the meeting on Friday morning the following ladies were elected to office for the ensuing year. Mrs. A. K. Zartman was reelected President.—1st. Vice President, Mrs. S. B. Yockey, Xenia, Ohio; 2nd. Vice President, Mrs. Dr. Kefauver, Tiffin, Ohio; Recording Secretary, Miss Hattie Wilt, Bellevue, Ohio; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. B. Ashbaucher, Bluffton, Ind.; Treasurer, Mrs. C. O. Knepper, Tiffin, Ohio.

The officers of the society in connection with Mrs. O. A. Hursh, Mrs. Freeman, Mrs. H. F. Heller, constitute the executive committee.

The reports of the different committees were read and adopted. It was ascertained by the Committee on Reports that much of the money raised by the Missionary Societies has been used to pay classical apportionments. It is hoped that this state of affairs will soon cease to exist, so that the women's work will be an additional and not supplemental one.

The following resolutions were adopted by the society and are of special interest to our classical and congregational organizations, as well as to the women of the church in general.

WHEREAS, We feel confident that God's blessing has rested upon the missionary workers of the Ohio Synod during the past year as evidenced by the organization of the W. M. S. of Tiffin Classis, thus completing the organization for woman's work, of all the Classes within her bounds; and

WHEREAS, While grateful for the progress made, we realize that our work is retarded by a lack of system in reporting monies raised and disbursed; therefore,

Resolved, That a special effort be made to systematize the work during the coming year so that the treasurer of each congregational society send to the treasurer of its Classical Society, before its annual meeting receipts for all monies raised and disbursed during the year, strictly for missionary purposes.

Resolved, That immediately after the minutes of each Classical Society are printed, the treasurer of the same shall send a copy to the treasurer of the Synodical Society, so that she may have a complete report from all the Classical Societies within the bounds of Synod.

Resolved, That the President of the

W. M. S. O. S. see that the blanks for reports and credentials are each year sent to every congregational society, so that these matters may be attended to in a uniform and systematic manner.

Resolved, That the W. M. S. O. S. raise the sum of \$100 toward the support of a lady teacher in Sendai, Japan, for the coming year.

Resolved, That special efforts be made to instruct the congregational societies so that the assessment of one dollar on each congregational society be paid to the Classical Society to which it is auxiliary before the time of its annual meeting, one-half of this amount to be paid by the Classical to the Synodical Society for a contingent fund.

Resolved, That we return to our homes to work more earnestly and conscientiously through our missionary societies for the extension of Christ's kingdom, and that we study to improve ourselves as missionary workers.

Committee on Resolutions,

MRS. S. B. YOCKEY,

MRS. BEN ASHBAUCHER,

MRS. J. H. ALBRIGHT.

THE DOLLAR SOCIAL.

For some time past the ladies have been working up a dollar scheme. Their plan is this, each lady of the church is in some way to earn a dollar. At the social and supper which will be given at the church parlors, Oct. 29th. These ingenious women are to bring in their dollars; and state how they earned them. It will no doubt be quite interesting, for the husbands and big brothers of those ladies to learn how these dollars were earned. Some fifty or sixty ladies are indulging in this enterprise. Their speeches will be short but sweet.

The ladies know how to season all things to taste. A program of special exercises will be prepared for this occasion. From 5 to 9 p. m. the ladies will serve a full supper. Their dishes will consist of oysters, cold meats, vegetables, cakes, coffee, etc. Tickets are on sale by the committee. Adults 25 cents, children 15 cents. Other things of interest will be added to the programme, to make the evening enjoyable and refreshing.

Mrs. Earl and little daughter, of Kenton, Ohio, are visiting friends in the city. They will remain for several weeks. We are certain the members of Grace church will be glad to see them again.

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Sun day school, - - - - - 9:30
Y. P. S. C. E. Prayer meeting Sab. evening 6:30
Prayer meeting Wednesday evening - 7:30
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Mrs. A. K. ZARTMAN—President.
Mrs. A. M. HENDERSON—Vice President.
EMMA NEIREITER—Secretary.
Mrs. M. CONET—Treasurer.

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A. K. ZARTMAN—President.
KATIE VORDERMARK—Vice President.
EMMA NEIREITER—Secretary.
EUGENE MATHEE—Treasurer.

Communion Services Sabbath morning, Nov. 1st.

The Ladies' Oyster Supper Oct. 29th, at the Church parlors. Supper 25 cts.

Make your arrangements to eat your Thanksgiving Dinner with the Ladies of Grace Church.

Mrs. Rev. C. M. Schaaf, of Huntington, has been spending several weeks with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. Neireiter, 269 W. Washington St.

Mrs. Alice McCreary, of Mill Creek, Erie Co., Pa., has recently been visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. Henderson, of this city.

Every lady in the church is requested to be at the ladies' monthly meeting; Nov. 5th. Final arrangements will be made at this meeting for the Thanksgiving dinner.

Mr. and Mrs. Ezra Horn, of Spencerville, have removed to the city, and are living on Prospect avenue. We are glad to see them at our Sabbath school and church services. Mr. Horn is a brother of Deacon J. L. Horn.

Miss Estella Mechling, of Glenford, Ohio, is visiting at the parsonage. She is a niece of the pastor. She will remain for several weeks in the city. On her return home she will visit friends at Union City, Ind., and Dayton, Ohio.

During the absence of the pastor,

Sabbath Oct. 11th, Rev. C. M. Schaaf, of Huntington, Ind., and another delegate from the Synod of the North West, filled the pulpit at the Grace church. Both sermons were well received by the people.

The Children's Day services Oct. 4th, were very good. The decorations were something new and beautiful. The program rendered in the evening by the children has been highly complimented by those who were present. The weather was unfavorable, but withal the attendance was fair. The offerings amounted to some more than \$20, but would have been much larger if the weather had been favorable.

Mr. August Guillaum, and Miss Nellie Evard, were married at the parsonage Thursday, Oct. 8th. A reception was tendered the groom and bride in the afternoon and evening of the same day, at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Evard, residing some eight miles east of the city. Mr. and Mrs. Guillaum are now living in the city. They will be glad to see their friends at their home near the north end of Spy Run Ave.

The Fort Wayne delegation attending the meetings of the Ohio Synod, consisted of Elder D. W. Souder and wife, the Pastor, wife and daughter. While at Bellevue the pastor and family were entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Ira Grubb, parents of Daniel Grubb, who, at our last communion, united with Grace Church. Mr. and Mrs. Grubb and family are very kind people, and entertained us hospitably. We hope that at some time we may have an opportunity of reciprocating their kindness.

The quarterly communion service will be held Sabbath morning, Nov. 1. Every member of Grace Church is expected to be at this service. Applicants for church membership will then be received. In the meantime let the members of the church invite such of their friends and neighbors who have no church home to cast in their lot with us. It is hoped also that the offerings on communion day may be large. Every member of the church should bring a special gift to the Lord on that day. It should be a liberal offering over and above the weekly giving. Let us remember the Lord not only in the celebrating of the Holy Supper, but also by a free will offering. Preparatory services will be held on Friday evening, Oct. 30th, at 7:30.

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**Y. P. S. C. E. PRAYER-MEETING TOPICS
AND LEADERS.**

Oct. 25—Consecration meeting.
"Our Father's Home." John 14: 2-4;
I. Cor. 2: 9, 10; II. Cor. 5: 1. Nannie Bandel.

Nov. 8—"Fruit Bearing." John
15: 2; Phil. 1: 9-11; Gal. 5: 22, 23. D. Grubb.

Nov. 8—"Led by the Spirit." Isa.
44: 3; John 14: 15, 16; Acts 5: 32.
Eugene Mathis.

DEPARTED.

Samuel C. French departed this life August 29th, 1891. Was born in Piqua, Miami County, Ohio, April 11th, 1836, aged 55 years, 4 months and 18 days. On Sabbath morning, August 20th, the remains attended by weeping friends, were quietly laid away in a beautiful spot in the Lindenwood, where they shall rest in the peaceful repose of death until the resurrection morn. One by one our friends and loved ones are passing away, reminding us of the fact that "We all do fade as leaf." Farewell words are spoken almost every moment, and the procession to the silent city of the dead is continuous. Truly "Here we have no continuing city." Let us be admonished of these things, and let us seek a city to come "Whose builder and maker is God." In the quiet of our hearts we hear the voice of the loving Savior saying to us all, "Come unto Me and I will give you rest." How rejoiced we shall be if, at the final coming of the Master, we shall be found waiting and watching, prepared to meet the Lord and to enter into that Heavenly Home.

Mrs. John Vordermark has been confined to her home for more than a month past on account of illness. She is greatly missed in the Sabbath School and church services. We hope she may soon regain her health again so as to be able to attend our services.

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